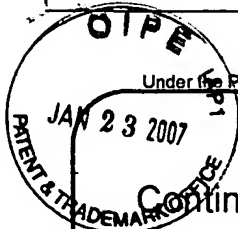


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01-24-07

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/790,931
Filing Date	March 1, 2004
First Named Inventor	Takemori TAKAYAMA
Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Deborah YEE
Attorney Docket Number	04005/HG

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

ii. ☒ Other AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 filed December 8, 2006

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-1378.

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 01/25/2007 WASFAW1 00000072 10790931

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 790.00 0P

iii. ☒ Other any required fees NOT paid by Form PTO-2038 submitted herewith

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature	<u>Richard S. Barth</u>	Date	January 23, 2007
Name (Print/Type)	Richard S. Barth	Registration No.	28,180

Express Mail Label No. EV 922 753 007 US

Date of Deposit: January 23, 2007

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above with sufficient postage, and is addressed to the Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Dorothy DeFrancesco
Dorothy DeFrancesco

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 USC 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.114. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, USPTO; U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents,